

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Atty. Dkt.: 3816-53
Date: October 24, 2003

031088 U.S.P.T.O.
10/691554
102403

Sir:

Attached for filing is the patent application of:

Inventor: BALDASSARRE et al

Entitled: AXIAL THRUST BALANCING SYSTEM FOR A CENTRIFUGAL COMPRESSOR, HAVING
IMPROVED SAFETY CHARACTERISTICS

and including attachments as noted below:

- ☒ Newly executed Declaration, ☐ Copy of Declaration from prior application, ☒ Abstract
☐ Please **delete** the following inventors in the continuation/division/continuation-in-part application:

Deleted persons:

11 pages of specification and claims (including 12 numbered claims), and
1 sheets of accompanying drawing/s.

- ☒ Record the attached assignment to NUOVO PIGNONE HOLDING S.p.A., Florence, Italy and return to the undersigned.

☐ Attached is a Power of Attorney.

- ☒ Priority is hereby claimed under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based on the following foreign applications:

Application Number	Country	Day/Month/Year Filed
MI2002A 002337		5 November 2002

, respectively, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application..

- ☒ Certified copy(ies) of foreign application(s) is/are attached.
☐ Certified copy(ies) filed on _____ in prior appln. no. _____ filed _____
☐ Applicant claims "small entity" status. ☐ "Small entity" statement attached.
☐ Please enter the attached and/or below preliminary amendment **prior** to calculation of filing fee:

- ☐ Also attached: ☐ Information Disclosure Statement; ☐ Non-Publication Request; ☐ Nucleotide and/or Amino Acid Sequence Submission; ☐ Statement deleting Inventor(s) named in prior application; ☐ Other:

FILING FEE IS BASED ON CLAIMS AS FILED LESS ANY HERewith CANCELED

Basic Filing Fee		\$	770.00
Total effective claims	12 - 20 (at least 20) = 0 x \$ 18.00	\$	0.00
Independent claims	2 - 3 (at least 3) = 0 x \$ 86.00	\$	0.00
If any proper multiple dependent claims now added for first time, add \$290.00 (ignore improper)		\$	0.00
	SUBTOTAL	\$	770.00
If "small entity," then enter half (1/2) of subtotal and subtract		-\$	0.00
	SECOND SUBTOTAL	\$	770.00
Assignment Recording Fee (\$40.00)		\$	40.00
	TOTAL FEE ENCLOSED	\$	810.00

Any future submission requiring an extension of time is hereby stated to include a petition for such time extension.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our **Account No. 14-1140**.
A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Correspondence Address:

Customer Number: 23117

Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100
RGB:lmj

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By Atty: Richard G. Besha, Reg. No. 22,770

Signature: _____

Richard Besha